PATENT 144002-2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Applicant

Douglas T. DIETERICH

FEB 0 9 2004

Serial No.

09/862,404

Filed

May 21, 2001

Title

METHOD OF TREATING ANEMIA CAUSED BY

RIBAVIRIN TREATMENT OF HEPATITIS C USING

ERYTHROPOIETIN ALPHA

Examiner

Regina M. DeBerry

Art Unit

1647

Confirmation No.

8918

745 Fifth Avenue

New York, New York 10151

EXPEDITED PROCEURE

RESPONSE FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

PACSIMILE

hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Grace L. Pan, Registration No. 39,440

Type or print name of person signing certification

February 9, 2004

Date of Signature

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL WITH A PETITION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME AND A REQUEST FOR AN INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a response to the Final Office Action mailed on October 7, 2003 setting a

three-month term for reply. The Applicant respectfully requests a one-month extension of time

00174775